

**CHAPTER NO. 646**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3083**

**By Representatives Brenda Turner, Armstrong, Black, Gresham, Wood, Sharp, Vincent**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2238**

**By Senator Fowler**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-511, relative to death determination and pronouncement by registered nurses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-511, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(e) A registered nurse may make the actual determination and pronouncement of death under the following circumstances:

(1) The deceased was receiving the services of a program for all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) which is a permanent medicare provider as approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services;

(2) Death was anticipated, and the attending physician has agreed in writing to sign the death certificate. Such agreement by the attending physician must be present with the deceased at the place of death;

(3) The nurse is licensed by the state; and

(4) The nurse is employed by a program described in subdivision (1).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: April 26, 2004



JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2004



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR